**Lesson Title:** Science Writing Heuristic: Potential and Kinetic Energy

**Time needed:** 50 min.

**Notes and reflection from demonstration (key points):**

(in PLC)

Fourth grade students have very little understanding of the scientific method, so this will need to be taught a bit beforehand. Even after an overview of scientific method, the students will need a great deal of the lesson modeled for them. This experiment will be a perfect activity to grant students more autonomy in the classroom. The way this lesson is designed makes sure that the students are engaged at all times.

**Do any materials need to be prepared for this lesson?**

Yardsticks

Balls

Chart paper or poster board

Science notebooks

Chart handouts will need to be copied.

Possible Brain Pop video

**Reflection**

**What was your favorite part of the lesson?**

The PTs commented that they both enjoyed seeing the students work as a team. This experiment gave everyone an important job, and each student stayed engaged. The students each stayed on task, and helped each other when they became unsure of what to do. The students were adept at drawing their own conclusions about results.

**What worked well for the students?**

By using their Science Notebooks to track progress, write the experiments steps, and even create a graph of the experiments, they felt a sense of pride and ownership of the learning taking place**.** The PTs commented that a short review of potential and kinetic energy was necessary, but the students were able to learn well and draw the correct conclusions from what took place in the lesson.

**Why is this important?**

Having the students stay engaged throughout the entire lesson is very important to learning. When students feel ownership of a project, activity, or a concept, they experience an intrinsic reward when things go right. The students had this type of experience with this lesson. The writing helped them to have that feeling too.

**What will you do in the future to improve the chance of this happening again?**

Both PTs indicated that they may use more real life examples of potential and kinetic energy in the future. This will reiterate the main points of the lesson, and provide repetition to those students who may need extra help.

**Other comments or suggestions?**

The PTs commented that a short review of potential and kinetic energy was necessary, but most of the students were able to learn well and draw the correct conclusions from what took place in the lesson.